

# The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 6195 號五十九百零六第 日九念月八年正月光

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 1877.

五年  
五月十英

港香

PRICE: 8d PER MONTH.

## SHIPPING.

## NOTICES OF FIRMS.

ARRIVALS.

October 3, JOHANN, German bark, 528 H. W. Horst, Cob 18th Sept., Ballast.

—WM. FURIA & CO.

October 4, NERVO CONSTANTE, Spanish sct., 217 T. Uriete, Provincia Fayalas, La-gumino 21st Sept., Wood.—REAR-

DIOS & CO.

October 4, ANGUS British steamer, 814 G. H. Drews, Canton 3rd October, General—

SUMMER & CO.

October 4, BRISBANE, British sct., 891 W. Ellis, Sydney 5th Sept., Morton Bay 7th, Rockhampton 10th, Bowen 11th, Townsville 12th, Cooktown 13th, Somer-

set 16th, and Singapore 29th, General—

GIBR, LIVINGSTON & CO.

October 4, CHINA, German steamer, 648 E. C. Ackermann, Shanghai 30th Sept., General—SIEMSEN & CO.

CLEARANCES.  
AT THE HARBOURMASTER'S OFFICE  
OCTOBER 4TH.

Egeria, German steamer, for Shanghai.

Rajahditarshan, British sct., for Bangkok.

## DEPARTURES.

October 4, BERTHA, Ger. bkt., for Whampoa.

October 4, THIAN, American ship, for Guan-

October 4, NORTHAMPTON, British ship, for

Singapore.

October 4, OSCAR, British bark, for Guan-

October 4, SHAMAN'S BRIDE, Siamese bark,

for Bangkok.

October 4, VISCOUNT MACDUFF, British sch.,

for Haiphong.

October 4, EUGENIA, Brit. sct., for Shanghai.

October 4, SHEN-CHI, Chinese gunboat, for

Canton.

## PASSENGERS.

### ABSENT.

Per Brisbane, Mr. from Sydney, &c.—

Messrs. A. W. Wylie, J. Graham, J. S. Tay-

ter, and J. MacClellan, 2 Europeans, steerage,

and 405 Chinese.

Per China, Mr. from Shanghai—

Dr. Bradley and Mr. Robert Bradton and 18

Chinese.

### TO DEPART.

Per Rajahditarshan, six, for Bangkok—

144 Chinese.

### REPORTS.

The German steamship China reports left Shanghai on 30th September at 4 p.m., and arived in Hongkong on 4th October at 4 p.m. Passed the O. & Co. steamship Geze on the 3rd at 2 p.m. ten miles East of Lanckow Island. Had fine weather with moderate Northwesterly winds to port.

The British steamship Brisbane reports left the Comptopolitan Wharf, Sydney, at 11.15 p.m. on 5th September and passed the company's steamer Normandy at 10.30 same night bound for Sydney. On the 7th at 2.30 p.m. arrived in Moreton Bay. On the 8th at 10 a.m. passed the steamer China, steamer Geze. On the 10th at 2 p.m. arrived in Rockhampton; on the 11th at 3 p.m. arrived in Bowen; on the 12th at 4 p.m. arrived in Townsville; on the 13th at 10 a.m. arrived in Cocktown; on the 15th at 10 a.m. arrived in Somerset; and left again on the 16th at 6 a.m. On the 22nd at 11.15 a.m. passed the Company's steamer Geze. On the 23rd at 10 a.m. arrived in Singapore and had fine clear weather. On the 27th at 10 a.m. left Singapore. On the 28th at 5 p.m. signalled a bark, (official number Q.K.L.T.) 12 days out from Hongkong, bound for London, all well. Arrived in Hongkong on 4th instant, and experienced light N.E. winds and equally weather throughout.

The German bark Zehnus reports left Nagasaki on 14th July, with a full cargo of rice, bound for China. On the 4th of August entered the St. Barnabas Straits, and on the 11th at 3 p.m. reached the North entrance of the harbour. We had at once a fog for a pilot hoisted, but as soon as off, we were lost obliged to sail in as far Westward as possible and staved came to anchor. The wind was at the time from the SW. and set right a head. At 10 o'clock the anchor struck suddenly, and the captain and boatswain were forward on the look-out—but without seeing anything, and where this rock was, we should have had at least 25 fathoms. We did all we could to bring the ship off again, but were obliged to obtain lighters from Cob to lighten the vessel. On the 15th at 10 a.m. passed the 2,850 ton bark, the 18th the 1000 ton bark, and where this vessel was, we should have had at least 20 fathoms. 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## NOTICE

A. S. WATSON & CO.  
FAMILY AND DISPENSING  
CHEMISTS.  
By Appointment to His Excellency the Governor and his Royal Highness the Duke of EDINBURGH.  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS  
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,  
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN,  
And  
AERATED WATER MAKERS;

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,  
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co., or HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [58]

The City of *Hongkong*, from Cardiff to Hongkong, has been spoken in lat. 10° N. and long. 23° W.

We've by a telegram in the Courtown Room, dated London, the 1st ultimo: that Brigham Young, the Mormon chief and prophet, is dead.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the "Aerated Water" sent for us, a little book containing a vast amount of very valuable information, especially to those engaged in navigating the China coast.

The opening Match of the Hongkong Cricket Club will be played to-day and tomorrow, and the opening of the *Canton*, Dickens, and others, the Band of the 2nd Regiment will perform on the ground on Saturday afternoon.

Describing the Brisbane Exhibition which was opened on the 1st ult. The Telegraph says that it is in course of construction, a very interesting display of Chinese and Japanese curios, lost for exhibition by His Excellency the Governor and Miss Kennedy. Here too is the magnificent Chinese state umbrella presented to the Governor in Hongkong, and the address delivered there on his leaving for Brisbane, by the Chinese residents. This is a beautiful piece of work.

By the arrival of the German bark *Johanna* from Cebu yesterday, we learn that—those who wait impatiently to enter the harbour with a cargo of rice from Nagasaki struck a shoal. She was got off safe by means of lighters from Cebu, where she had been beached. The bark was beached and the damage done to her bottom, patched up with sheets of copper, when it was found some of the planks under the copper were greatly injured. After discharging, and being unable to procure another cargo in Cebu, whilst in that condition, she took in ballast and sailed for Hongkong for the purpose of docking and arrived here yesterday morning having had fine weather across.

We understand that the *Brisbane Courier* of the 21st August) that Colonel Scratteley is unable to start for Reckhampton by the mail steamer *Normandy*, as was intended, but it is thought that the State of Jersey will be compelled to make other arrangements before leaving the colony of paying a visit to Reckhampton and the various ports en route. At present, however, their arrangements appear to be somewhat uncertain. On Monday they propose making a trip to Pape River, and on Tuesday will probably start by train for the Downs accompanied by Sir Arthur Kennedy, who is expected to open the Pastoral Show, and lay the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Church in Toowoomba during their visit.

The following letter from His Excellency the Governor Kennedy was received by Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., by the Australian mail, yesterday.—"Government House, Brisbane, 28 September, 1877.—Sir, I have had the honor to inform you that my son, Captain John Lane, of the 4th J.I.L., is informed that the Residents of Hongkong had subscribed for, and presented to Mr. Scratteley, a present to be used in the 18th June, in the name of this Colony, for his services in the discharge of his duty as an Agent of the British Government in Hongkong."—The letter concluded with the signature of Captain John Lane, Crawford and Co., *Hongkong*.

The British bark *Leon Crewe*, Captain L. George, which arrived here on Monday from Brisbane, reports leaving that port on the 8th of August in light and variable winds, which continued up to the 22nd. When in lat. 3° S. and long. 171° E., met with fresh Westerly winds and squalls, with a heavy sea, and was driven to the 25th, when in 76° 55' S. from thence to 10° N., experienced light variable winds and calms, after which light Easterly winds. Sighted Guy's Island on the 18th September. Spoke the ship *Halloween*, of London, from Sydney to Shanghai, 31 days out, in 19° 51' N. and long. 142° 30' E., on the 28th. Passed between the Bar Islands, from thence carried a moderate breeze from the N. to N.E. until arrival.

The visitation of cholera in China, though primarily invited by the insanitary condition of the cities in which it appeared, was no doubt likewise due in some measure to the unwholesome food which the natives consume, and the unripe fruit for which they show such a predilection. Vast quantities of fruit are plucked before ripe and sold by the owners, who are generally eager to realise

Customers and water-melons, both very unwholesome if eaten in excess, are in enormous request among the Chinese, who partake of them almost without limit. Many of their vegetables are, too, very indigestible, and are eaten when only half cooked. When it is taken into consideration that their diet generally is vegetable and not nourishing, it will be seen that there is cause for surprise in the fact that epidemics are not more frequent and more destructive. The intense ignorance of the people, and the difficulty of inducing them to take any precautions or to deny themselves any indulgence, render it almost impossible, under present conditions, to do anything to stop the course of an epidemic.

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They usually ascribe such a visitation to the

evil spirits of the departed, and get up joss

processions and other performances to try

and appease them. If instead of this they

were to set to work to clean and drain their

streets, and make it a punishable offence for

any man to allow decaying matter and refuse

to collect about the premises or in their

vicinity, some little good might be expected

to accrue.

As a matter of fact, however, the Chinese

do nothing of their own accord towards the

prevention of disease. Their houses are close

and ventilated, without sufficient windows,

and are always packed closely together. Then

the number of people accommodated in each

dwelling is, as a rule, about four times

greater than its capacity, much to the detri-

ment of the health of the occupants. The

one thing done by the Chinese which tends

to purify the air from infection is performed

without the remotest intention of contribut-

ing to such an effect—we refer to the

extensive firing of crackers by them on all

festive occasions. Unfortunately for the

well-being and health of the population these

occasions are only spasmodic; it would be a

good thing if they occurred at frequent and regular intervals. The discharge of so much gunpowder must undoubtedly have a most salutary effect in clearing the atmosphere, charged with the fetid exhalations from the open drains and heaps of rubbish which abound on all sides in Chinese towns. The

only case in which the Chinese have yet seen fit to acknowledge the truth of the well-

known maxim, that "prevention is better than cure" is by their adopting vaccination as a safeguard against small-pox. That terrible and destructive disease makes serious havoc among them every winter, and it is frequent appearance and the fearful disfigurement which it works on its victims, have led them to try Dr. JENNETT's great and beneficial discovery, the efficiency of which they now fully believe in. But there are still vast numbers who are either ignorant of vaccination or else are too negligent to have it performed. It is, however, gratifying to find that the numbers of Chinese who are vaccinated increase yearly. But it will take many years more experience, we fear, to make the natives of the Flower Land perceive that dirt is a provocative of disease, and they will slow to recognise the necessity of draining and cleansing the streets and habitations in their oil-smelling towns and cities.

At the last experiments in gunnery at Shoeyness the ex-Constructor of the Navy implored to be present, and asked for some information from a key-officer standing near him, with whom he was acquainted. The conversation soon commenced, and continued until the two gentlemen met again, at least at the office, a few moments of the day, adding, "No one could possibly think otherwise except that fellow Reed, and I should not care to argue with him." Mr. Reed was naturally gratified at this, and fearing to lose the advantage of hearing more of his new friend's views and opinions, he said, "Well, however, don't watch the young man's career with interest. Mr. Reed tells the story himself, as he can well afford to do. But boys should be careful—World."

## CANTON INSURANCE SOCIETY

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the general meeting to be held at the offices of the general agents, on Tuesday next, at three o'clock p.m.

The general agents have the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the annual statement of accounts—

OFFICE 1876.

Final balance sheet showing the net profit for the year to have been \$20,400, which sum has been apportioned as follows:

1st Dividend (paid in November, 1875) \$49 per share.

2nd Dividend (paid in March, 1877) \$44 per share.

3rd Dividend (paid in June, 1877) \$36 per share.

1st Return on Contributions (paid in November, 1876) \$15,000.

2nd Return on Contributions (paid in March, 1877) \$17,334 per cent.

27,000

\$92,400

Open statement from which it will be seen that the business of the year has given a satisfactory profit. The balance at hand is \$20,400, which is to be added to the Reserve Fund, thus increasing the present value of the fund to \$20,400.

With regard to the objection that there

was uncertainty and want of reciprocity,

there was no uncertainty and abundant evidence

of reciprocity. The amount was 500 tons, 100

tons more or less, which was the form of

payment usually entered into, and they were

numerous cases in which contracts had

been made with Chinese firms.

In this connection it may be mentioned

that the Chinese firms

had no right to make

any claim for payment.

It is evident that the Chinese firms

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